



Dental Admission Test (DAT):

The American Dental Association, Department of Testing Services, 211 East Chicago Avenue, Suite 1840, Chicago, IL 60611-2678. Test dates: October 12, 1996, April 15, 1997, and October 4, 1997. Request scores be sent to California Graduate Fellowships.

Optometry Admission Test (OAT):


Optometry Admission Testing Program, 211 East Chicago Avenue, Suite 1840, Chicago, IL 60611-2678. Test dates available: October 26, 1996, February 1, 1997 and October 25, 1997. Request scores be sent to California Graduate Fellowships.

Endorsement Form


Students being considered for a Graduate Fellowship will receive a Graduate Fellowship Endorsement Form. The Endorsement Form must be completed and filed with the Commission prior to receiving Fellowship award payments. **Failure to return the Endorsement Form by the deadline specified in the award notification (California Aid Report or CAR) will result in the withdrawal of the recipient’s award.** The Endorsement Form demonstrates the recipient’s intent to pursue a teaching career at the university or college level. The form includes endorsement by an academic advisor or administrator at the campus where the recipient is now enrolled, last attended, or will be enrolled for the 1997-98 academic year. An Endorsement Form is included with the CAR sent to all newly designated Graduate Fellowship recipients.



# CALIFORNIA GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM



## 1997-98 ACADEMIC YEAR FACT SHEET



Application and File Services  
P.O. Box 510621  
Sacramento, CA 94245-0621  
(916) 445-0880



The state of California, through the Student Aid Commission, administers several financial aid programs. These include Cal Grants for undergraduate students, Graduate Fellowships, teacher incentive programs, and loans for both students and parents of dependent students. This fact sheet covers information you need to know when applying for a state Graduate Fellowship.

The California Student Aid Commission awards approximately 300 new Graduate Fellowships annually to assist with tuition and fees at both independent and public colleges and universities. In 1996-97, awards were \$882 at CSU, \$1669 at UC, and \$6,490 at independent schools and colleges.

Who is Eligible to Apply?

Applicants must plan on pursuing a recognized graduate degree at an eligible California graduate school, **and** demonstrate intent to become college or university faculty members. Applicants with financial need are ranked competitively according to consideration of disadvantaged backgrounds, undergraduate or graduate grades, and graduate test scores. Disadvantaged backgrounds are determined based on the parental information provided on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Residency

Recipients must be legal California residents **and must not be in California solely for the purpose of attending college.**

Degrees

Graduate Fellowship recipients must pursue a graduate degree accredited by a regional accrediting organization recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. All subject areas of graduate study are included in the Graduate



Fellowship program. Teaching credential or certificate programs do not meet the requirements of the fellowship program.

Graduate Level Standing

Applicants must be admitted to a graduate school, or be a continuing student enrolled in a graduate degree program. In order to be considered for a Graduate Fellowship, applicants must indicate a graduate/professional grade level in question 32 of the 1997-98 FAFSA.

**Undergraduate students in their fifth year are not eligible.** Applicants who are not graduate students should review undergraduate financial aid programs.

Recipients in the Graduate Fellowship program must maintain graduate-level standing.

Eligible Graduate Schools

Successful applicants must enroll at least half time by the fall term at a graduate school located in California. The school must be accredited by a regional accrediting association recognized by the United States Department of Education. Law schools must be accredited by the American Bar Association or the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, or both.

How To Apply

Those wishing to be considered for a state Graduate Fellowship must make formal application by carefully following the information provided in this fact sheet and complying with all eligibility requirements.

The following must be received for an application to be complete:

- 1. 1997-98 FAFSA
- 2. 1997-98 GPA Verification form
- 3. Graduate Examination results

Applicants should retain copies of all application information submitted and obtain a Postal Service Certificate of Mailing.



## The Federal Student Aid Application

All applicants must complete a 1997-98 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and submit it to the address listed on the form no later than the March 2, 1997 deadline. The FAFSA is available from schools, counselors, colleges, financial aid offices, and libraries.

## Financial Information

For determining financial need, the Student Aid Commission maintains income and asset ceilings for dependent and independent applicants. In 1996-97, the maximum income ceiling was \$68,000 per year and the asset ceiling was \$42,000 for dependent/independent students with dependents. For independent students without dependents (other than a spouse) the 1996-97 income ceilings were \$24,000 for married students and \$21,000 for unmarried students and the asset ceiling was \$20,000. **Ceiling figures are subject to annual revision by the Commission.**

All graduate level students are considered independent students. This means that to determine your financial need for a Graduate Fellowship the Commission will not use your parents' income or assets. **However, parental information is used in scoring for the Graduate Fellowship competition.** It is therefore imperative that you include your parents' 1996 income and asset information on the FAFSA. Applicants with both parents no longer living should answer yes to question 44 in Section D of the FAFSA. In these instances, applicants' parental educational level will be used for scoring in lieu of the parental financial information.

**Parental financial and education information, although not required, represents a significant portion (80 percent) of the total selection score.** Therefore, applicants whose



parents' income is less than \$25,000 are strongly urged to complete the Parental Information section on the FAFSA to enhance their selection rank. **Absence of parental income or highest level of education requested in Section B will reduce the applicant's possibility of qualifying for a fellowship. Parental income information submitted on the FAFSA must include a parent's signature attesting to the accuracy of the income information. Incomplete forms will not be considered, nor can they be amended after the filing deadline.**

**Late applications will not be accepted.**

**Award announcements are scheduled for spring 1997.**

**Applicants must notify the California Student Aid Commission of any change in their permanent address.**

## California Student Aid Commission GPA Verification Form

Complete and mail the Student Aid Commission GPA Verification Form to the Commission by March 2, 1997 if you are a new fellowship applicant. The form is available at California colleges and universities or the Commission. The Commission does not retain copies of forms filed for prior award years.

## Submission Of Examination Results

Applicants are expected to take the appropriate examination for their field of study. The Commission will accept the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) general test results for all fields of study. However, results from the following tests are accepted in lieu of GRE results: LSAT, MCAT, GMAT, DAT, OAT. The testing agency should send examination results to the California Student Aid Commission for inclusion in the calculation of applicants' selection scores. **The applicant's name and**



**social security number must correspond on the test score report, the application and financial forms. Except for the LSAT, applicants must arrange for forwarding of test results to the Commission** (the Commission will accept copies of the LSAT scores directly from students). Tests required by graduate schools may differ from the requirements of the state Graduate Fellowship program. If a test is required, review the available test dates and apply by the deadline listed on the test information sheet or book, usually three or more weeks before the test date.

**Examination test results must be requested from the appropriate testing agency.** Applicants should arrange to have test scores forwarded to the Commission no later than March 2, 1997.

When requesting scores, advise the testing agency of the Commission's March 2 postmark deadline. **The Commission's code is 0120 for GRE and GMAT scores.** Written requests should include the applicant's name exactly as indicated when tested, Social Security number and the exact date and test center. Testing agencies may not be able to report scores of tests taken several years ago.

**The Commission does not retain fellowship applicant test scores or other information submitted as part of a prior year's application. Scores must be sent to the California Student Aid Commission, Graduate Fellowship Program, P.O. Box 510621, Sacramento, CA 94245-0621.**

The following provides information concerning tests recognized by the Graduate Fellowship program, test dates, and the addresses where test scores may be requested.

## Graduate Record Examination General Test (GRE):

(Verbal and Quantitative), Graduate Record Examination, Educational Testing Service, P.O. Box 6006, Princeton, NJ 08541-6006. Test



dates: October 12 and December 14, 1996; April 12, 1997. Request scores for 0120, California Graduate Fellowships. ETS suggests that students complete the "Additional Score Report Request" form when requesting scores for exams already taken.

## Law School Admission Test (LSAT):

Applicants must mail a photocopy of the LSAT test results directly to the Commission. The testing agency will not forward scores to the Commission. Law School Admission Services, P.O. Box 2000, Newtown, PA 18940. Test dates: October 5, 1996, December 7, 1996, February 11, 1997 and June 10, 1997.

**The Graduate Fellowship program will accept student-submitted photocopies of test scores only for the Law School Admission Test (LSAT). All other test results must be originals received directly from the testing agency.**

## Medical College Admission Test (MCAT):

MCAT Program Office, P.O. Box 4056, Iowa City, IA 52243. Test dates: April 19 and August 16, 1997. Request scores be sent to 0120, California Graduate Fellowship Program.

## Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT):

GMAT, Educational Testing Service, P.O. Box 6103, Princeton, NJ 08541-6103. Test dates: October 19, 1996; January 18, 1997, March 15, 1997 and June 21, 1997. Request scores for 0120, California Graduate Fellowships. ETS suggests that students complete the "Additional Score Report Request" form when requesting scores for exams already taken.